

STATE SENATOR • GILDA Z. JACOBS • 14TH DISTRICT

Jacobs Press Release

P.O. Box 30036 • Lansing • Michigan • 48909-7536 • 517-373-7888 • Fax: 517-373-2983
E-mail: sengjacobs@senate.michigan.gov • www.senate.michigan.gov/dem/SD14



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CONTACT: Sen. Gilda Jacobs (D-Huntington Woods)
(517) 373-7888

STATE SENATOR GILDA JACOBS HONORED BY DIABETES AND KIDNEY FOUNDATIONS

“FRIEND OF DIABETES AND KIDNEY HEALTH CARE”

(LANSING)—State Senator Gilda Jacobs (D-Huntington Woods) was honored this week for her contributions to budget and policy issues related to diabetes and kidney disease. Jacobs received the “Friend of Diabetes and Kidney Health Care” award from the National Kidney Foundation of Michigan, the Michigan Diabetes Outreach Network, and the American Diabetes Association.

“This is such a great honor,” said Jacobs. “These organizations do very important work in our state. Diabetes and kidney disease are both increasing at alarming rates. Anything we can do in Lansing to help these groups educate more of our citizens about the risks and prevention of diabetes and kidney disease is important work.”

Senator Jacobs recently introduced legislation that would allow state employees to use up to 30 days of leave time to serve as an organ donor. Under the ‘Organ Donor Leave Act,’ state employees who take time off to serve as organ donors will not suffer a loss or reduction in pay as a result of the time away from work. The bill has bipartisan support and is currently in the Senate Commerce and Labor Committee awaiting consideration.

“I hope we are able to get this bill through the committee soon and to the Senate floor for a vote,” said Jacobs. “According to Gift of Life, the Michigan Organ and Tissue Donation Program, there are currently over 2300 Michigan residents waiting for transplants. If this bill enables even one of those people to get a life-saving transplant, it will be well worth it.”

State Senator Gilda Jacobs represents the 14th Senate District, which includes Farmington, Farmington Hills, Ferndale, Hazel Park, Huntington Woods, Lathrup Village, Oak Park, Pleasant Ridge, Royal Oak Township, and Southfield. She is the Minority Vice Chair of the Families & Human Services Committee and the Economic Development, Small Business & Regulatory Reform Committee. She also serves on the Government Operations and Health Policy Committees.

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